

## **FREE TEACHING SERVICE BEFORE 1937**

A.C.A. § 24-7-601

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1. Teaching service performed before July 1, 1937, is considered prior service. Such service must have been proved by affidavits and filed with the System before July 1, 1959. Credit was allowed under the following provisions:
  - A. Proof of service rendered prior to 1937 is considered prior service. Such service must have been proved by affidavits and filed with the System before July 1, 1959, to be counted as credited service unless marked otherwise or correspondence in folder so states. The 1937-38 year may be proved at any time at no cost to the member and counted as membership year, except withdrawn contributions, if any, for 1937-38 must be repaid.
  - B. Prior service proved prior to July 1, 1955, is acceptable if the affidavit was signed by father, mother, brother, sister, former co-worker, neighbor, etc., and notarized—unless the affidavit was signed by a school official. In that case, signature did not have to be notarized.
  - C. Prior service proved after July 1, 1955, must be signed by a school official where service was rendered or by the county school supervisor where service was rendered. The proof should indicate number of days or months of service rendered.
  - D. Unless proof is otherwise marked and number of months is not indicated, ATRS will assume it is a year of service.
  - E. If proof does not meet the above specifications but was filed prior to July 1, 1959, we will give the member an opportunity to submit an acceptable proof. If proof filed does not meet these specifications, but correspondence indicates the member has been given credit for prior service, ATRS will not take it away from him or her.
  - F. Upon reentrance, subsequent service for 120 days, and repayment of withdrawn service, a member's microfilmed proof of prior service is sufficient for service credit.

**Amended:** February 3, 2004  
June 15, 2004